

1/13/2015

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
Mail Code WTR-3-2  
75 Hawthorne St.  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Attention: Ms. Nancy Rumrill

I would like to state my concerns over the potential operation of the in situ copper mine off of Hunt Highway, in Florence AZ. If anyone can answer my questions below with "no's" then there would seem no rational reason to oppose the mine.

- Will dangerous TEFORM situations arise, as occurred in two other in situ mines in AZ?
- Could the groundwater and aquifer become contaminated?
- Will air pollution, beyond what we currently have, increase?
- Could leaking occur?
- Will we be subject to any long term contaminants that would affect our health?
- Will this operation affect my home value?

Could you explain the differences between fracking and in situ copper mining? The environmental effects of the former are less than reassuring. How much water will be needed to clean up any potential contamination of the groundwater, and where will it come from? I have read that cleaning up any contamination of the water is, most likely, not feasible. I have also read, that at my age, any groundwater contamination cleanup would not be completed until many years after I'm gone. Who is going to stick with this task for all that time?

Arizona has been in drought conditions for over fifteen years. To put future drinking water reserves at risk for private profit makes no sense at all. I am not an expert on this subject by any stretch of the imagination; however, everything that I have read leads me to believe that this is not a project suited for our area.

Citizens should have control over their destiny. For the mining company it's about money. For the people who live here it's about our quality of life and the ability to maintain it for those who will come after us.

Like us, I know that you believe strongly that the EPA must always be the Environmental PROTECTION Agency!

Sincerely,

*Mary Brennan*

FOIA Exemption 6

